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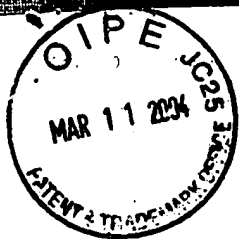
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**WEBSTER'S**  
**Ninth New**  
**Collegiate**  
**Dictionary**



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ther, *disinterested* has developed a sense (1b), perhaps influenced by sense 1 of the prefix *dis-*, that contrasts with *uninterested* (when I grow tired or *disinterested* in anything, I experience a disgust — Jack London, letter, 1914). Still, use of senses 1a and 1b will incur the disapproval of some who may not fully appreciate the history of this word or the subtleties of its present use.

**dis-in-ter-me-dia-tion** \dis-*int-er-mēd-ē-ā-shən* *n* (1967): the diversion of savings from accounts with low fixed interest rates to direct investment in high-yielding instruments

**dis-in-tox-i-cate** \dis-*n-ī-tāk-sā-kāt* *vt* (1985): DETOXIFY 2 — **dis-in-tox-i-ca-tion** \dis-*sā-kā-shən* *n*

**dis-in-vest-ment** \dis-*n-ves(t)-mēt* *n* (1936): consumption of capital; **dis-join** \dis-*join* *vb* [ME *disjoynen*, fr. MF *desjoindre*, fr. L *disjungere*, fr. *dis-* + *jungere* to join — more at *YOKE*] *vt* (15c): to end the joining of ~ *vi*: to become detached

**dis-joint** \dis-*join(t)* *adj* [ME *disjoynit*, fr. MF *desjoynit*, pp. of *desjoindre*] (15c) 1 *obs*: DISJOINTED 1a 2: having no elements in common (~ mathematical sets)

**dis-joint** *vt* (15c) 1: to disturb the orderly structure or arrangement of 2: to take apart at the joints ~ *vi*: to come apart at the joints

**dis-joint-ed** *adj* (1586) 1 *a*: being thrown out of orderly function (a society) *b*: lacking coherence or orderly sequence (an incomplete and ~ history) 2: separated at or as if at the joint — **dis-joint-ed-ly** *adv* — **dis-joint-ed-ness** *n*

**dis-junct** \dis-*jŋ(k)-t* *adj* [ME, fr. L *disjunctus*, pp. of *disjungere*, to disjoin] (15c): marked by separation of or from usu. contiguous parts or individuals: as *a*: DISCONTINUOUS *b*: relating to melodic progression by intervals larger than a major second — compare **CONJUNCT**

**dis-junct** \dis-*jŋ(k)-t* *n* (1921): any of the alternatives that make up a logical disjunction

**dis-junc-tion** \dis-*jŋ(k)-shən* *n* (15c) 1: a sharp cleavage: DISJUNCTION 2: the ~ between theory and practice 2: a compound sentence in logic formed by joining two simple statements by *or*; *a*: INCLUSIVE DISJUNCTION *b*: EXCLUSIVE DISJUNCTION

**dis-junctive** \dis-*jŋ(k)-tiv* *adj* (15c) 1 *a*: relating to, being, or forming a logical disjunction *b*: expressing an alternative or opposition between the meanings of the words connected (the ~ conjunction *or*) *c*: expressed by mutually exclusive alternatives joined by *or* (~ pleading) 2: marked by breaks or disunity (a ~ narrative sequence) 3 of *a* pronoun form: stressed and not attached to the verb as an enclitic or proclitic — **dis-junctive-ly** *adv*

**dis-junctive** *n* (1530): a disjunctive conjunction

**dis-junc-ture** \dis-*jŋ(k)-chŋr* *n* [ME, modif. (influenced by L *disjunctus*) of MF *disjoyniture*, fr. *desjoynit* disjoin] (15c): DISJUNCTION 1

**disk** or **disc** \dis-*k* *n*, often attrib [L *discus* — more at *DISH*] (1664) 1 *a* *archaic*: DISCUS 1 *b*: the seemingly flat figure of a celestial body (the solar ~) 2: any of various rounded and flattened animal anatomical structures (as an intervertebral disk) — compare **SLIPPED DISK** 3: the central part of the flower head of a typical composite made up of closely packed tubular flowers 4: *a*: a thin circular object, *b* *usu* *disc*: *a* phonograph record *c*: a round flat plate coated with a magnetic substance on which data for a computer is stored, *d* *usu* *disc*: *a* videodisc 5 *usu* *disc*: one of the concave circular steel tools with sharpened edge making up the working part of a disc harrow or plow; also: an implement employing such tools — **disk-like** \dis-*k-lik* *adj*

**disk** or **disc** *vt* (1884) 1: to cultivate with an implement (as a harrow or plow) that turns and loosens the soil with a series of disks 2 *usu* *disc*: to record on a phonograph disc

**disk-kette** \dis-*ket*, *dis-*n** (1973): FLOPPY DISK

**disk flower** *n* (1870): one of the tubular flowers in the disk of a composite plant — called also *disk floret*

**disk wheel** *n* (ca. 1909): a wheel presenting a solid surface from hub to rim

**dis-lik-able** also **dis-like-able** \dis-*li-kə-bəl* *adj* (1843): easy to dislike — **dis-lik-er** *n*

**dis-like** \dis-*lik* *n* (1577) 1: a feeling of aversion or disapproval 2 *obs*: DISCORD

**dislike** *vt* (1579) 1 *archaic*: DISPLEASE 2: to regard with dislike 3: DISAPPROVE 3 *obs*: to show aversion to — **dis-like-er** *n*

**dis-limn** \dis-*lim* *vb* (1606): DIM

**dis-lo-cate** \dis-*lō-kāt*, *-lā-* *vt* [ML *dislocatus*, pp. of *dislocare*, fr. L *dis-* + *locare* to locate] (1605) 1: to put out of place; *specif*: to displace (a bone) from normal connections with another bone 2: DISRUPT

**dis-lo-ca-tion** \dis-*lō-kā-shən*, *-lā-* *n* [ME *dislocacioun*, fr. MF *dislocation*, fr. ML *dislocatus*, pp.] (15c): the act of dislocating; the state of being dislocated: as *a*: displacement of one or more bones at a joint: LUXATION *b*: a discontinuity in the otherwise normal lattice structure of a crystal *c*: disruption of an established order

**dis-lodge** \dis-*lāj* *vb* [ME *disloggen*, fr. MF *desloger*, fr. *des-* + *loger* to lodge, fr. OF *loge* lodge] *vt* (15c) 1: to drive from a position of hiding, defense, or advantage 2: to force out of a secure or settled position (dislodged the rock with a shovel) ~ *vi*: to leave a lodging place — **dis-lodge-ment** or **dis-lodge-ment** *n*

**dis-loy-al** \dis-*lōi(-ə)-l* *adj* [ME, fr. MF *desloial*, fr. OF, fr. *des-* + *loial* loyal] (15c): lacking in loyalty; manifesting an absence of allegiance, devotion, obligation, faith, or support (his ~ refusal to help his friend) *syn* see FAITHLESS — **dis-loy-al-ly** \dis-*lōi(-ə)-l-ē* *adv*

**dis-loy-al-ty** \dis-*lōi(-ə)-l-tē* *n* (15c): lack of loyalty

**dis-mal** \dis-*māl* *adj* [ME, fr. *dismal*, *n*: days marked as unlucky in medieval calendars, fr. AF, fr. ML *dies mali*, lit. evil days] (15c) 1 *obs*: DISASTROUS, DREADFUL 2: showing or causing gloom or depression 3: lacking interest or merit — **dis-mal-ly** \dis-*māl-ē* *adv* — **dis-mal-ness** *n*

**dis-man-tle** \dis-*mant-tl* *vt* *dis-man-tled*; *dis-man-ting* \dis-*mant-ŋ* *vt* [MF *desmanteler*, fr. *des-* + *mantel* mantle] (1602) 1: to take to pieces 2: to strip of dress or covering: DIVEST 3: to strip of furniture and equipment — **dis-man-tle-ment** \dis-*mant-tl-mēt* *n*

**dis-mast** \dis-*māst* *vt* (1747): to remove or break off the mast of

**dis-may** \dis-*mā*, *dis-*vi* *dis-mayed*; *dis-may-ing* [ME *dismayen*, fr. (assumed) OF *desmaier*, fr. OF *des-* + *maier* (as in *esmaiter* to dismay), fr. (assumed) VL *magare*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *magan* to be able — more at *MAY*] (13c): to deprive of courage, resolution,*

and initiative through the pressure of sudden fear or anxiety; perplexity (~ed at the size of his adversary) — **dis-may-ing-ly** *adv*

*syn* DISMAY, APPALL, HORRIFY, DAUNT mean to unnerv(e) or arouse fear, apprehension, or aversion. DISMAY implies that one is balked and perplexed or at a loss as to how to deal with something. APPALL implies that one is faced with that which perturbs, confuses, or shocks; HORRIFY stresses a reaction of horror or revulsion; DAUNT suggests a cowering, subduing, disheartening, or frightening nature requiring courage.

**dismay** *n* (14c) 1: sudden loss of courage or resolution (from alarm or fear) 2 *a*: sudden disappointment *b*: PERTURBATION

**disme** \dim- *n* [obs. E; tenth; fr. obs. F; fr. MF *disme*, *dimē* — more at *DIME*] (1792): a U.S. 10-cent coin struck in 1792

**dis-mem-ber** \dis-*mem-bər* *vt* *dis-mem-bered*; *dis-mem-ber-ing* [ME *dismembren*, fr. OF *dismembrer*, fr. *des-* + *membre* member] (13c) 1: to cut off or disjoin the limbs; members, or parts 2: to break up or tear into pieces — **dis-mem-ber-ment** \dis-*mem-bər-mēt* *n*

**dis-mis-sal** \dis-*mis* *vt* [modif. of L *dimissus*, pp. of *mittere*, to send + *mittere* to send — more at *DIS-*, *SMITE*] (15c) 1: to permit or leave (~ed his visitor) 2: to remove from position of service

**dis-mis-sion** \dis-*mis-i-on* *n* [ME, fr. MF *desmission*, fr. OF *desmission* — more at *DIS-*, *SMITE*] (15c) 1: to permit or leave (~ed his visitor) 2: to remove from position of service

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**dy-na-tron** \di-nə-trən\ *n* [Gk *dynamis* power] (1918): a vacuum tube decrease in the secondary emission of electrons from the plate results in a dyne \din\ *n* [F. fr. Gk *dynamis*] (1873): the unit of force in the centimeter-gram-second system equal to the force that would give a free mass of one gram an acceleration of one centimeter per second per second  
**dy-node** \di-nōd\ *n* [Gk *dynamis*] (1939): an electrode in an electron tube that functions to produce secondary emission of electrons  
**Gk:** akin to OE *dis-* bad, difficult, fr. MF & L. MF *dis-* fr. L *dys-* fr. *dysidrosis* 2: difficult (dysphagia) — compare EU. 3: impaired (dysfunction) 4: bad (dyslogistic) — compare EU.  
**dys-ar-thria** \dis-är-thrē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *dys-* + *arthr-* + *-ia*] (1878): difficulty in articulating words due to disease of the central nervous system  
**dys-cra-sia** \dis-kra-zh(ē)-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. ML, bad mixture of humors, fr. Gk *dyskrasia* fr. *dys-* + *krasis* mixture, fr. *kerannynai* to mix — more at CRATER] (15c): an abnormal condition of the body  
**dys-en-ter-ic** \dis-n-ter-ik\ *adj* (1727): of or relating to dysentery  
**dys-en-ter-ia** \dis-n-ter-ē-ə\ *n*, pl. *-ter-ies* [ME *dysenterie*, fr. L *dysenteria*, fr. Gk, fr. *dys-* + *enteron* intestine — more at INTER-] (14c): 1: a disease characterized by severe diarrhea, with passage of mucus and blood and usu. caused by infection 2: DIARRHEA  
**dys-function** \dis-fŭŋ(k)-shən\ *n* (ca. 1916): impaired or abnormal functioning — *dys-function-al* \-shnəl, -shən-ē\ *adj*  
**dys-gen-e-sis** \dis-jen-ə-səs\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1883): defective development esp. of the gonads (as in Klinefelter's syndrome)  
**dys-gen-ic** \dis-jen-ik\ *adj* (1915) 1: tending to promote survival of or reproduction by less well-adapted individuals (as the weak or diseased) esp. at the expense of well-adapted individuals (as the strong or healthy) (the effect of war) 2: biologically defective or deficient in moving, fr. *dys-* + *-genesis*, fr. *genesis* motion, fr. *kinēin* to move — more at KINETIC (ca. 1706): impairment of voluntary movements resulting in fragmented or jerky motions (as in Parkinson's disease) — compare TARDIVE DYSKINESIA — *dys-ki-net-ic* \-net-ik\ *adj*  
**dys-lex-ia** \dis-lek-sē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *dys-* + Gk *lexis* word, speech, fr. *legō* to say — more at LEGEND] (ca. 1886): a disturbance of the ability to read — *dys-lex-ic* \-sik\ *adj* or *n*  
**dys-to-gis-tic** \dis-tō-gis-tik\ *adj* *dys-* + *-logistic* (as in *eulogistic*) (1802): UNCOMPLIMENTARY — *dys-to-gis-tic-al-ly* \-ti-k(ə)-lē\ *adv*  
**dys-men-or-rhea** \dis-men-ə-rē-ə\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1810): painful menstruation — *dys-men-or-rhe-ic* \-rē-ik\ *adj*

**dys-pep-sia** \dis-pep-shə, -sē-ə\ *n* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *dys-* + *pepsis* digestion, fr. *pepsin*, *pepsin* to cook, digest — more at COOK] (ca. 1706): INDIGESTION  
**dys-pep-tic** \dis-pep-tik\ *adj* (1809) 1: relating to or having dyspepsia 2: showing a sour disposition — *dys-pep-tic-al-ly* \-ti-k(ə)-lē\ *adv*  
**dys-pha-gia** \dis-fa-j(ē)-ə\ *n* [NL] (1783): difficulty in swallowing  
**dys-pha-sia** \dis-fa-zh(ē)-ə\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1883): loss of or deficiency in the power to use or understand language as a result of injury to or disease of the brain — *dys-pha-sic* \-fā-zik\ *n* or *adj*  
**dys-pho-nia** \dis-fō-nē-ə\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1706): defective use of the voice  
**dys-pho-ria** \dis-fō-rē-ə, -fōr-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *dysphoria* hard to bear, fr. *dys-* + *pherein* to bear — more at BEAR] (ca. 1842): a state of feeling unwell or unhappy — *dys-phoric* \-fōr-ik, -fār-ə\ *adj*  
**dys-pla-sia** \dis-plā-zh(ē)-ə\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1923): abnormal growth or development (as of organs or cells); broadly: abnormal anatomic structure due to such growth — *dys-plas-tic* \-plas-tik\ *adj*  
**dys-pnea** \dis(p)-nē-ə\ *n* [L *dyspnoea*, fr. Gk *dyspnoia*, fr. *dyspnoos* short of breath, fr. *dys-* + *pnein*, to breathe — more at SNEEZE] (ca. 1681): difficult or labored respiration — *dys-pne-ic* \-nē-ik\ *adj*  
**dyspnoea** chiefly Brit var of DYSPNEA  
**dys-pro-sium** \dis-prō-zē-əm, -zh(ē)-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *dysprositos* hard to get at, fr. *dys-* + *prositos* approachable, fr. *prosinai* to approach, fr. *pros-* + *ienai* to go — more at ISSUE] (1886): an element of the rare earth group that forms highly magnetic compounds — see ELEMENT table  
**dys-rhyth-mia** \dis-rith-mē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *dys-* + L *rhythmus* rhythm] (ca. 1909): an abnormal rhythm; esp.: a disordered rhythm exhibited in a record of electrical activity of the brain or heart — *dys-rhythm-ic* \-mik\ *adj*  
**dys-to-pia** \dis-tō-pē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *dys-* + *-topia* (as in *utopia*)] (ca. 1950) 1: an imaginary place which is depressingly wretched and whose people lead a fearful existence 2: ANTI-UTOPIA 2 — *dys-to-pi-an* \-pē-ən\ *adj*  
**dys-tro-phic** \dis-trō-fik\ *adj* (1893) 1 a: relating to or caused by faulty nutrition b: relating to or affected with a dystrophy (a ~ patient) 2 of a lake: brownish with much dissolved humic matter, a sparse bottom fauna, and a high oxygen consumption  
**dys-tro-phy** \dis-trō-fē\ *n*, pl. *-phies* [NL *dystrophia*, fr. *dys-* + *-trophia* -trophy] (ca. 1901) 1: a condition produced by faulty nutrition 2: any myogenic atrophy; esp.: MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY  
**dys-uria** \dis-(y)ūr-ē-ə, dis-yūr-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *dysouria*, fr. *dys-* + *-ouria* -uria] (14c): difficult or painful discharge of urine

E

**e** \ē\ *n*, pl. *e's* or *es* \ēz\ often *cap*, often *attrib* 1 a: the 5th letter of the English alphabet b: a graphic representation of this letter c: a speech counterpart of orthographic e 2: the 3d tone of a C-major scale 3: a graphic device for reproducing the letter e 4: one designated e esp. as the 5th in order or class; specif.: the base of the system of natural logarithms having the approximate numerical value 2.71828 5 a: a grade rating a student's work as poor and usu. constituting a conditional pass b: a grade rating a student's work as failing c: one graded or rated with an E  
**e** \ē\ *prefix* [ME, fr. OF & L; OF, out, forth, away, fr. L, fr. *ex-*] 1 a: not (ecardinate) b: missing: absent (edental) 2: out: on the outside (escribe) 3: thoroughly (evaporize) 4: forth (eradiate) 5: away (eluvium)  
**each** \ech\ *adj* [ME *ech*, fr. OE *ælc*; akin to OHG *igilich* each; both fr. a prehistoric WGmc compound whose first and second constituents respectively are represented by OE *ā* always and by OE *gelic* alike] (bef. 12c): being one of two or more distinct individuals having a similar relation and often constituting an aggregate  
**each** *pron* (bef. 12c): each one  
**each** *adv* (bef. 12c): to or for each: A PIECE  
**each** *other *pron* (bef. 12c): each of two or more in reciprocal action or relation (looked at each other in surprise)  
**usage** Some handbooks and textbooks recommend that *each other* be restricted to reference to two and *one another* to reference to three or more. The distinction, while neat, is not observed in actual usage. *Each other* and *one another* are used interchangeably by good writers and have been since at least the sixteenth century.  
**eager** \ē-gər\ *adj* [ME *egre*, fr. MF *aigre*, fr. L *acer* — more at EDGE] (14c) 1 a: archaic: SHARP b: obs.: SOUR 2: marked by keen, enthusiastic, or impatient desire or interest — *eager-ly* *adv* — *eager-ness* *n*  
**EAGER, AVID, KEEN, ANXIOUS, ATHIRST** mean moved by a strong and urgent desire or interest. EAGER implies ardor and enthusiasm and sometimes impatience at delay or restraint; AVID adds to EAGER the implication of insatiability or greed; KEEN suggests intensity of interest and quick responsiveness in action; ANXIOUS emphasizes fear of frustration or failure or disappointment; ATHIRST stresses yearning but not necessarily readiness for action.  
**zeal** \zē\ *n* (1943): one who is extremely zealous in performing his assigned duties and in volunteering for more*

**eagle** \ē-gəl\ *n* [ME *egle*, fr. OF *aigle*, fr. L *aquila*] (13c) 1: any of various large diurnal birds of prey of the accipiter family noted for their strength, size, gracefulness, keenness of vision, and powers of flight 2: any of various esp. emblematic or symbolic figures or representations of an eagle: as a: the standard of the ancient Romans b: the seal or standard of a nation (as the U.S.) having an eagle as emblem c: one of a pair of silver insignia of rank worn by a military colonel or a navy captain 3: a ten-dollar gold coin of the U.S. bearing an eagle on the reverse 4: a golf score of two strokes less than par on a hole — compare BIRDIE 5 *cap* [Fraternal Order of Eagles]: a member of a major fraternal order  
**eagle eye** *n* (1802) 1: the ability to see or observe with exceptional keenness 2: one that sees or observes keenly  
**eagle ray** *n* (ca. 1856): any of several widely distributed large active stingrays (family Myliobatidae) with broad pectoral fins like wings  
**ea-glet** \ē-glet\ *n* (1572): a young eagle  
**ea-l-dor-man** \al-dor-mən\ *n* [OE — more at ALDERMAN] (bef. 12c): the chief officer in a district (as a shire) in Anglo-Saxon England  
**Eames Chair** \ēmz-ə\ *n* [Charles Eames †1978 Am. designer] (1950): a swivel armchair with a headrest and a matching ottoman having a molded wood frame and leather upholstery  
**-ean** — see -AN  
**ear** \ēr\ *n* [ME *ere*, fr. OE *ēare*; akin to OHG *ōra* ear, L *auris*, Gk *ous*] (bef. 12c) 1 a: the characteristic vertebrate organ of hearing and equilibrium consisting in the typical mammal of a sound-collecting outer ear separated by the tympanic membrane from a sound-transmitting middle ear that in turn is separated from a sensory inner ear by membranous fenestrae b: any of various organs capable of detecting vibratory motion 2 a: the external ear of man and most mammals b: a human earlobe (had her ~s pierced) 3 a: the sense or act of hearing b: acuity of hearing c: sensitivity to musical tone and pitch; also: the ability to retain and reproduce music that has been heard d: sensitivity to nuances of language esp. as revealed in the command of verbal melody and rhythm or in the ability to render a spoken idiom accurately 4: something resembling a mammalian ear

\ə\ about \ʌ\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ā\ ace \ü\ cot, cart  
\au\ out \ch\ chin \et\ bet \ē\ easy \ə\ go \i\ hit \i\ ice \j\ job  
\j\ sing \d\ go \d\ law \oi\ boy \th\ thin \th\ the \ü\ foot \ü\ foot  
\ʌ\ yet \zh\ vision \ä, ä, ö, œ, œ, u, ü, see Guide to Pronunciation